

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-104. (Cancelled)

105. (Currently amended) An isolated R1 allelic variant 5660 nucleotides upstream of the ATG site having consisting of GT dinucleotide repeats from nucleotide position 125 from 5' end of SEQ ID NO:1 of Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription-6 (STAT-6) gene for use in predicting susceptibility of a human subject to atopic asthma

106. (Cancelled)

107. (Currently amended) An isolated R3 allelic variant consisting of GT dinucleotide repeats from nucleotide position 87 from the 5' end of SEQ ID NO: 2 of STAT-6 gene present at 3003 nucleotide upstream of the ATG site of SEQ ID NO: 2 of Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription-6 (STAT-6) gene having SEQ ID NO: 2 for use in predicting susceptibility of a human subject to atopic asthma.

108.-109. (Cancelled)

110. (Currently amended) The isolated allelic variant according to claim 105, wherein haplotypes 17_15 (CA repeat is on 17 on allele of R1 locus and on 15 allele of R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.0031 and 16_15 (CA repeat 16 on R1 locus and 15 on R3 locus of the STAT6 gene having a p value less than 0.001) are associated with susceptibility to asthma.

111.-116. (Cancelled)

117. (Currently amended) The isolated allelic variant according to claim 105, wherein haplotypes 17_14 (CA repeat 17 in on R1 locus and 14 in on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.00001), 23_16 (CA repeat 23 in on R1 locus and 16 in

on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.00001) and 24_16 (CA repeat 24 ~~in~~ on R1 locus and 16 ~~in~~ on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.00001) are associated with protection from asthma.

118. (Currently amended) The isolated pharmacogenetic markers having SEQ ID NO: 1 and 2 for detecting and predicting a predisposition to atopic asthma of STAT-6 gene in a human subject.

119. (Previously presented) The isolated pharmacogenetic markers according to claim 118, wherein SEQ ID NO: 1 is associated with R1 locus and SEQ ID NO: 2 is associated with R3 locus of STAT-6 gene.

120. (Cancelled)